

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 FBIE-00 INSE-00 SCA-01 /059 W
-----060303Z 071957 /73

R 051915Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3822
INFO AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMCONSUL MILAN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL NAPLES

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5459

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, US, IT
SUBJECT: L'UNITA REQUEST FOR OFFICE IN THE UNITED STATES

REF: ROME 18204 AND PREVIOUS

1. THE AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED A LETTER OF WELCOME FROM
LUCA PAVOLINI, DIRECTOR OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY
DAILY L'UNITA. PAVOLINI USED THE OCCASION OF THE LETTER
TO SOLICIT A RESPONSE TO L'UNITA'S REQUEST FOR A VISA (SIC)
FOR ALBERTO JACOVIELLO FOR THE PURPOSE OF OPENING A PERMANENT
OFFICE FOR THE NEWSPAPER IN THE UNITED STATES. PAVOLINI
NOTES RATHER SARCASTICALLY THAT THE REQUEST HAS BEEN PENDING FOR
APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR AND EXPRESSES THE HOPE THAT THE AMERICAN
RESPONSE WILL BE POSITIVIE "IN THE INTEREST OF A BETTER
RECIPROCAL KNOWLEDGE."

2. WE BELIEVE THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO MOVE ON THIS
PROBLEM. THE APPROACH OF THE BELGRADE CSCE
FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE MAKES OUR CONTINUED DELAY IN
RESPONDING NOT ONLY EMBARRASSING BUT SUBJECT TO
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SEVERE CRITICISM, PRECISELY AT A MOMENT WHEN A
PREMIUM IS BEING PLACED ON THE MANNER IN WHICH
INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES HAVE LIVED UP TO THE VARIOUS
OBLIGATIONS UNDERTAKEN AT HELSINKI. ADDITIONALLY, OUR
REFUSAL TO BUDGE ON THE ISSUE, CONTINUES TO HAVE A
DETRIMENTAL IMPACT ON OUR PUBLIC IMAGE IN ITALY AS THE
SUBJECT IS PERIODICALLY BANTERED ABOUT IN THE PRESS

AS AN EXAMPLE OF OUR INCONSISTENCY IN ADVANCING THE
CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND IN ATTEMPTING TO
PROJECT AMERICA AS AN OPEN SOCIETY.

3. PAVOLINI LETTER IS ERRONEOUS IN STATING THAT
JACOVIELLO, OR L'UNITA ON HIS BEHALF, HAS
APPLIED FOR A VISA TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES. IN
POINT OF FACT, PREVIOUS APPROACHES BOTH BY JACOVIELLO
DIRECTLY AND BY PAVOLINI IN WRITTEN MANNER, HAVE
CENTERED AROUND THE QUESTION OF US ATTITUDE TOWARD
THE OPENING OF A L'UNITA OFFICE IN US AND DID NOT
ADDRESS SPECIFIC VISA APPLICATION.

4. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND SUBJECT TO DEPARTMENT'S
CONCURRENCE, WE PROPOSE TO HAVE EMBASSY PRESS ATTACHE
RESPOND TO PAVOLINI'S LETTER. ATTACHE'S LETTER WOULD
REFER TO PREVIOUS EXCHANGES REGARDING OPENING OF
L'UNITA OFFICE IN THE US AND SUGGEST THAT JACOVIELLO
FORMALLY APPLY FOR A VISA AT HIS EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.
WE COULD ADD, IF DEPARTMENT AGREES, THAT USG IN
PRINCIPLE DOES NOT OPPOSE OPENING OF A L'UNITA
OFFICE IN THE US. SINCE JACOVIELLO HAS INDICATED
PRIVATELY TO FRIENDS THAT HE WOULD PREFER TO
REMAIN IN ITALY FOR NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS TO SEE HOW
PCI WORKS OUT INTERNAL PROBLEMS AND HOW GENERAL
POLITICAL SITUATION EVOLVES, MONKEY WOULD THEN BE ON
L'UNITA BACK FOR ANY FURTHER DELAY IN PROCEEDING ON
THIS MATTER. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PINT, US, IT
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